

**BEST AVAILABLE COPY**Gerhard Buchholtz  
Appl. No.: 09/765,925AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The text of all pending claims, (including withdrawn claims) is set forth below. Canceled and not entered claims are indicated with claim number and status only. The claims as listed below show added text with underlining and deleted text with ~~striketrough~~. The status of each claim is indicated with one of (original), (currently amended), (canceled), (withdrawn), (new), (previously presented), or (not entered).

25. (currently amended) A method for the knowledge-based ~~advising~~ managing and/or controlling of a business process involving at least two parties, comprising the steps of:

providing said at least two parties access to an information processor configured to provide said at least two parties with interactive access to a database for the process-accompanying input and storage of at least one of process knowledge and expert knowledge;

logically interlinking at least one of process knowledge and/or expert knowledge in a said database, wherein the interlinking is based on at least one checklist;

generating an assessment that characterizes the status of said business process based on the interlinked knowledge and partial process results;

formulating a course of action from said assessment for at least one of said at least two parties; and

signaling said course of action to said at least one party;

~~wherein said at least two parties have access to an information processor configured to provide said at least two parties with interactive access to said database for the process-accompanying input and storage of said process knowledge and/or expert knowledge.~~

26. (original) The method as claimed in claim 25, wherein the interlinking step is based on at least one table configured for the structured gathering of expert knowledge.

27. (canceled)

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Gerhard Buchholtz  
Appl. No.: 09/765,923

28. (currently amended) The method as claimed in claim ~~27~~25, wherein the checklist comprises at least one milestone-related work package comprising subprocesses of said business process.

29. (original) The method as claimed in claim 25, wherein the assessment generating step comprises entering numerical values or marking areas in color.

30. (original) The method as claimed in claim 25, wherein said signaling step comprises automatically generating an e-mail or setting a hyperlink.

31. (original) The method as claimed in claim 25, wherein said course of action comprises formulating, defining, supplementing or executing work packages, requirements, functions, functional descriptions, system analyses, components, process descriptions, technical features, target values, assessments, priorities, risks or actions for reducing risks.

32. (currently amended) The method as claimed in claim 25, wherein the process knowledge contained in the database is based on the process knowledge of a standard business process adaptable to a branch-specific individual process for said knowledge-based ~~advising, managing and/or~~ controlling.

33. (original) The method as claimed in claim 32, wherein said business process comprises a product production process.

34. (original) The method as claimed in claim 25, wherein said interactive access to said database comprises a communication network.

35. (original) The method as claimed in claim 34, wherein said communication network comprises the Internet or a company-internal intranet.

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Gerhard Buchholtz  
Appl. No.: 09/765,923

36. (original) The method as claimed in claim 25, wherein said at least two parties comprise one or more members of company management, project teams, suppliers, customers and/or advisers.

37. (currently amended) A data processing system for the knowledge-based ~~advising, managing and/or~~ controlling of a business process involving at least two parties, wherein said system is configured to:

provide said at least two parties access to an information processor configured to provide said at least two parties with interactive access to a database for the process-accompanying input and storage of at least one of process knowledge and expert knowledge;

logically interlink at least one of process knowledge and/or expert knowledge in a said database, wherein the interlinking is based on at least one checklist;

generate an assessment that characterizes the status of said business process based on the interlinked knowledge and partial process results;

formulate a course of action from said assessment for at least one of said at least two parties; and

signal said course of action to said at least one party;

wherein said at least two parties have access to an information processor configured to provide said at least two parties with interactive access to said database for the process-accompanying input and storage of said process knowledge and/or expert knowledge.

38. (original) The data processing system as claimed in claim 37, wherein the interlinking is based on at least one table configured for the structured gathering of expert knowledge.

39. (canceled)

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Appl. No.: 09/765,925

40. (currently amended) The data processing system as claimed in claim 37, wherein the checklist comprises at least one milestone-related work package comprising subprocesses of the business process.

41. (original) The data processing system as claimed in claim 37, wherein the generation of an assessment comprises entering numerical values or marking areas in color.

42. (original) The data processing system as claimed in claim 37, wherein the signaling comprises automatically generating an e-mail or setting a hyperlink.

43. (original) The data processing system as claimed in claim 37, wherein said course of action comprises formulating, defining, supplementing or executing work packages, requirements, functions, functional descriptions, system analyses, components, process descriptions, technical features, target values, assessments, priorities, risks or actions for reducing risks.

44. (currently amended) The data processing system as claimed in claim 37, wherein the process knowledge contained in the database is based on the process knowledge of a standard business process adaptable to a branch-specific individual process for said knowledge-based ~~advising, managing and/or~~ controlling.

45. (original) The data processing system as claimed in claim 44, wherein said business process comprises a product production process.

46. (original) The data processing system as claimed in claim 37, wherein said interactive access to said database comprises a communication network.

47. (original) The data processing system as claimed in claim 46, wherein said communication network is the Internet or a company-internal intranet.

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Appl. No.: 09/765,925

48. (original) The data processing system as claimed in claim 37, wherein said at least two parties comprise one or more members of company management, project teams, suppliers, customers and/or advisers.

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